

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 /031 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 2290

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AMEMASSY BEIRUT FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2458

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

REF: USUN 1476

1. AT URGENT REQUEST OF PRIME MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTER EBAN CALLED ME TODAY TO EXPRESS GRAVE GOI CONCERN ABOUT CURRENT FORM OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION RE LEBANESE COMPLAINT. EBAN STATED THAT ISRAEL HAD THREE MAJOR CONCERNS WITH CURRENT WORDING: (1) THERE IS NO SPECIFIC MENTION OF KIRYAT SHMONA ATROCITY IN OPERATIVE PARA 2; (2) OPERATIVE PARA 3 DOES NOT CALL FOR ACTION TO CURB TERRORIST ACTIVITIES; (3) OPERATIVE PARA 4 IS INAPPROPRIATE SINCE RELEASE OF LEBANESE CIVILIANS SHOULD PROPERLY BE SUBJECT OF "NEGOTIATION" BETWEEN LEBANON AND ISRAEL. HE STRESSED THE FACT THAT BRITAIN, AUSTRALIS AND AUSTRIA HAD FOUND THE RESOLUTION ONE-SIDED AND OBJECTIONABLE.

2. AS RESULT OF CLOSE QUESTIONING BY ME, EBAN ADMITTED THAT NUMBER ONE ISRAELI PRIORITY WAS TO INSERT SPECIFIC MENTION OF KIRYAT SHMONA IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2. ALTHOUGH EBAN SAID GOI HAD STRONG OBJECTIONS TO OTHER TWO POINTS, MY IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE ISRAELIS COULD LIVE WITH LANGUAGE IF NECESSARY.

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3. EBAN REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF GOI THAT WE MAKE MAXIMAL

EFFORT TO AT LEAST INSERT SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO KIRYAT SHMONA
IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2. IF WE ARE UNSUCCESSFUL, GOI
STRONGLY URGES THAT WE VETO RESOLUTION. (EBAN NOTED SIMILARITY
OF SITUATION TO THAT FOLLOWING MUNICH MASSACRE AND US DID VETO.)

4. COMMENT: EBAN EMPHASIZED THAT PASSAGE OF RESOLUTION
IN PRESENT FORM WOULD CREATE ATMOSPHERE HERE WHICH WOULD BE
"COUNTERPRODUCTIVE" TO SECRETARY'S EFFORTS TO OBTAIN CONCESSIONS
FROM ISRAEL IN CONTEXT ISRAELI-SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT
NEGOTIATIONS. I CAN CERTAINLY ATTEST TO THE IMPACT OF THE KIRYAT
SHMONA MASSACRE ON STATE OF ISRAELI OPINION. BASED ON MY VIEW
FROM TEL AVIV, THEREFORE, I WOULD SUPPORT GOI REQUEST FOR A
VETO UNLESS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 2 CAN BE MODIFIED AS
REQUESTED. IN ANY EVENT, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD NOT VOTE IN FAVOR
OF RESOLUTION AS IT NOW STANDS. IF, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, WE
BELIEVE WE CANNOT OBTAIN DESIRED CHANGE, AND CANNOT VETO,
I RECOMMEND THAT WE AT LEAST ABSTAIN.
KEATING

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